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Performing Perini

Due for handover in July 2008 is Perini Navi's new uncompromising plumb-bowed 38-metre yacht. As a departure for the yard she is being built in La Spezia – for a repeat Perini owner – at the former Beconcini facility and will be the first Perini new build there, as well as the first of a series.

The new yacht design, created by Philippe Briand, is based upon strong wishes of her owner, who decided he wanted to build a yacht that would be fast and perform well in the buckets and Perini Cup, while also being capable of cruising to Alaska. The owner originally did not envisage the yacht being built by Perini, though, and was looking elsewhere; on discovering this Perini became inspired to revisit a performance Perini concept with a new design from Philippe Briand (revised after a meeting with Giancarlo Ragnetti).

The result is that the hull has been designed to accommodate and perform at various displacements while her pilothouse is a composite of various fabrics including carbon fibre. Unusually captive winches are absent, although a captive winched version is envisaged in the future and her mainsail is controlled by Cariboni magic trims below the flush foredeck.

The alu-hulled design will use 7.5 tons of water ballast to produce a VMG upwind, Briand estimated, equivalent to a non-water ballasted carbon one. The ballast may be automatically deployed and 90% of the ballast will be drained by gravity from the high tank to the lower one through a 200-mm cross pipe.

The new 38-metre will exemplify the maximum specification version of the new series with a Sealium hull, 30-tonne bulb-drop keel (3.5/5.5 m), PBO rigging, carbon spar, slab reefing, Park Avenue boom, folding Brunton prop, strict weight control and honeycombed, modern, minimalist Perini-designed interior for the ultimate performance, safety and comfort on board.

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